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**Subject: Breastfeeding Contraindications**

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Effective Date: October 1, 2004

Revised from:

**Policy:** Breastfeeding is not recommended in any of the following situations:

- Mother has AIDS or is HIV positive
- Mother is abusing illicit drugs or alcohol
- Mother has untreated Active Tuberculosis (TB)
- Mother is undergoing therapeutic doses of chemotherapy treatment
- Mother has Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus Type 1 (HTLV-1)
- Mother has untreated Hepatitis A or Hepatitis B (infant untreated)

**Procedure:**

1. Inform all women not to breastfeed with any of the above conditions.

a. For AIDS/HIV

- Advise all women to know their HIV status and receive early diagnosis through routine, voluntary testing.
- Respect client's confidentiality and do not ask their HIV status.
- Counsel all clients that HIV positive women should not breastfeed.
- Provide referrals to appropriate health care and supportive services. For the most current management recommendations, contact the HIV/AIDS Treatment Information Service at 1-800-448-0440.

b. For drug or alcohol abuse

- Counsel women who are chemically dependent or abusing illicit drugs such as amphetamines, cocaine, heroin, marijuana, and phencyclidine not to breastfeed.
- Women who want to breastfeed should be counseled to drink no more than 1-2 drinks a week, and to try not to breastfeed for at least 2 hours after drinking. See the Nutrition Risk Factor Manual for the definition of the risk factor for breastfeeding women – Alcohol and Illegal Drug Use.

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- c. For women who have untreated active TB, are undergoing active chemotherapy, or have HTLV-1, counsel not to breastfeed.
  - d. For women who are suspected to have TB, or confirmed to have untreated active TB, breastfeeding may be resumed once the woman is known to be or rendered no longer contagious. Provide an electric pump loan and instruct the client to pump and dump the milk if she desires to breastfeed after the diagnosis is confirmed.
  - e. For women who have Hepatitis:
    - Hepatitis A – Breastfeeding is permitted as soon as the mother receives gamma globulin.
    - Hepatitis B – Breastfeeding is permitted after the infant receives HBIG (Hepatitis B specific immunoglobulin) and the first dose of the series of Hepatitis B vaccine.
    - Hepatitis C – Breastfeeding is permitted for mothers without co-infections (e.g. HIV.)
2. Communicate the risks involved to the participant/infant if she breastfeeds with any of the above conditions.